



FREEDOM WATCH



November 26, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

First U.N. inspection set Wednesday

UNITED NATIONS —

With U.N. arms inspectors now on the ground in Iraq, the first inspection is scheduled for Wednesday. The team of 17 inspectors arrived in Baghdad backed by a tough new U.N. mandate that threatens war if Iraq fails to cooperate. A Dec. 8 deadline looms for Iraq to declare any weapons of mass destruction within its borders. Chief U.N. inspector Hans Blix acknowledged that Iraqi officials maintained they had no such weapons. When asked how Baghdad could prove its claim, he said there were two ways, each involving records Iraq has previously submitted. "They have provided a lot of figures to UNSCOM in the past. These figures do not give the full account," he said. "And if they want to be believed, they had better provide either the weapons, if they remain, or better accounts."

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Prev. Med. tests air quality in Bagram

Story & photo by Spc.
Erica Leigh Foley
28th Public Affairs
Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Fact: Humans need oxygen to survive. But as time passes we question what else is in the air we breathe. Years of research show tiny traces of chemicals floating in the air.

Nobody is immune. Everybody is exposed to chemicals in the air breathed, the food eaten and the water we drink. Some are man-made and some are natural.



What started out as a white filter is now dark grey after 24-hours. The filter collects dust particles 10 microns and smaller for testing at the CHPPM lab.

Either way the effects of chemical contact — whether it's pollution from working in a coal mine or spray-painting cars — can be hazardous.

To find out what is in the air around

Bagram, the 791st Preventative Medical Detachment, from Stanton, Calif., collects air samples.

"The standard operating procedure, given to us by the Center for Health Promo-

tion and Preventive Medicine, dictates that we monitor (the air) for seven days straight, for a 24 hour period," said Spc. Rommel Tawatao, a preventative medicine specialist, from Los Angeles.

The unit selected several locations on Bagram Air Base for sampling. One area was continuously monitored. Disney Drive — the main route on base.

"The idea is to put the air sampler in the dustiest areas — to

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U.S. builds for teachers in Afghanistan



U.S. Ambassador Robert Finn accepts flowers from a young Afghan during a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Teachers Training College in Kabul.

Story & photo by Sgt. Eric Barker
300th Mobile Public
Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan — Recently the Coalition Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force held a ribbon cutting ceremony for an Afghanistan National Impact Project — the Teachers Training College. The U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan Robert Finn and several Afghanistan education officials attended the ceremony located in District 3, Kabul.

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Thanksgiving Dinner

The Dining Facility hours at Bagram Air Base for Thursday are

❖ Continental breakfast

— 0130Z to 0330Z

❖ Main meal—

0730Z to 1130Z

❖ Dinner —

1230Z to 1630Z



Photo by Spc. Erica Leigh Foley
Spec. Rommel Tawatao, 791st Prev. Med. Det., checks the Airmetrics Minivol Air Sampler located on Bagram Air Base.

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give the worst case scenario of what the soldiers here are exposed to,” said Capt. Cory Campora, commander, native of Honolulu.

The air samples are collected by filter in an Airmetrics Minivol Air Sampler.

“The minivol portable air sampler is an ambient air sampler for particulate matter and non-reactive gases,” said Sgt 1st Class David Castillo, non-commissioned officer in charge, from Los Angeles.

A pump sucks air in and

the filter collects particles that are smaller than 10 microns (a millionth of a meter). The machine sucks in five liters of air per hour, which is the equivalent of what the average person breaths.

Even on clear days, the white filters come out dark gray after collecting elements in the air.

The spherical filters are removed from the trap every 24 hours and packed. Once packed, the filters are labeled and sent to the CHPPM - Europe lab for analysis.

TEACHER, from Page 1

“The facility, renovated with the help from the U.S., will provide training for prospective teachers throughout Kabul,” said Ghulam Farooq, dean of the college. “They (students) come to this school to practice teaching, and when they graduate from our college they are able to go back to their areas and teach.”

Repairs included the renovation on six buildings of the Experimental College, the Administration and Auditorium buildings, four classroom buildings and a female dormitory.

“The renovation went very well,” said Capt. Jennifer Vaden, chief engineer for the project, 62nd Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas. “It’s amazing to see how much things have changed since the project originated.”

Operating a project this size, in a war-torn country, one might come to expect a lot of problems.

“The only problem was with the wells,” Vaden said. “They kept getting sand in them and had to be redone. By far this has been the project with the fewest problems.”

Work also included structural repair to roofs and walls, restoring water and power, electrical wiring, installing windows, doors, applying plaster and paint.

“We came out every week to make sure the work

was done correctly,” explained Sgt. 1st Class Alton Mickle, quality control officer for the project, 169th Engr. Bn., Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. “Everybody did an outstanding job, from the Afghan contractors to our own engineers. This has been the biggest and best school we have worked on so far.”

Constructing the Teachers Training College is not only important to the Afghan-U.S. relations but also to the future of Afghanistan.

“I touch the future; I teach,” said Masama Wavelak, a teacher at the college. “Teaching is one of the most important parts of rehabilitation. If you want to have a good future for Afghanistan, we must have good teachers.”

“This school was made to put out teachers, male and female,” explained Mickle. “In order for this country to succeed, you have to start with the youth. I am just glad the U.S. could play a role in that.”

The CJCMOTF conducts humanitarian projects throughout Afghanistan. The task force coordinates its efforts with Afghanistan agencies and the International Organization and Nongovernmental Organization communities.

“The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.”

— William Ward

HIND SIGHT

1774

A congress of colonial leaders criticized British influence in the colonies and affirmed their right to "Life, liberty and property."

1863

The first National Thanksgiving was celebrated.

1922

Lord Carnarvon and Howard Carter, archeologists, opened King Tut's tomb, undisturbed for 3,000 years.

1938

Poland renewed nonaggression pact with the Soviet Union to protect against a German invasion.

1979

Oil deposits equaling OPEC reserves were found in Venezuela.

BRIEFS, from Page 1

Bush signs homeland security bill

WASHINGTON — Citing "the dangers of a new era," President Bush signed into law legislation Monday creating a Cabinet-level Department of Homeland Security — a move that sets into motion the largest reorganization of the federal government in more than half a century. Bush named Tom Ridge, who has been director of the White House Office of Homeland Security for nearly a year, as his nominee to lead the vast, new department. Ridge will have the challenge of demonstrating he can use his new authority to put together an 170,000-employee agency to better protect the United States from terrorist attacks and make the American public feel secure.

Feds charge 3 in massive credit fraud scheme

NEW YORK — Three men have been charged with selling people's personal and credit information to criminals who defrauded tens of thousands in what prosecutors called the largest identity theft case to date. "We know of approximately 30,000 victims — and the numbers are growing every day — and of losses that are in the millions and growing every day," U.S. Attorney James Comey said. "In short, with a few keystrokes, these men picked the pockets of tens of thousands of Americans, and in the process, took their identity, stole their money and swiped their security."

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

The Bagram Air Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff present "Brave Heart" tonight at 1530Z at the MWR building.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Men of Honor," showing at the same time.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Mostly clear</i> H: 63F L: 25F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 63F L: 25F
Kandahar:	<i>Dusty</i> H: 68F L: 36F	<i>Mostly clear</i> H: 70F L: 36F
Kabul:	<i>Haze</i> H: 61F L: 30F	<i>Haze</i> H: 59F L: 30F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Haze</i> H: 66F L: 33F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 55F L: 34F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Combined Joint Task Force - 180.

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COALITION SPORTSZONE



2002 Bowl Championship Series

TEAM	TOTAL
1. Miami, Fla.	2.89
2. Ohio State	4.21
3. Oklahoma	9.09
4. Georgia	10.07
5. Iowa	12.43
6. USC	13.37
7. Notre Dame	13.83
8. Washington St.	20.25
9. Texas	22.78
10. Kansas St.	23.82
11. Michigan	24.91
12. Colorado	28.18
13. Florida	28.79
14. Penn St.	29.69
15. Colorado St.	32.79

Top 25 Scoreboard

- (1) Miami 28, (19) Pittsburgh 21
 (2) Ohio St. 14, (9) Michigan 9
 Washington 23, (3) Washington St. 20 (OT)
 (5) Oklahoma 60, (23) Texas Tech 15
 (7) USC 52, (24) UCLA 21
 (8) Notre Dame 42, Rutgers 0
 (10) Kansas St. 38, Missouri 0
 West Virginia 21, (12) Virginia Tech 12
 North Carolina St. 17, (14) Florida St. 7
 (15) Colorado St. 22, New Mexico 14
 (16) Penn St. 61, Michigan St. 7
 Virginia 48, (13) Maryland 13
 (20) LSU 14, Mississippi 13
 (21) Boise St. 44, Nevada 7
 East Carolina 31, (22) TCU 28
 (25) Hawaii 20, Cincinnati 19

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

McPherson kicked off team; Rix to start for Seminoles

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida State quarterback Adrian McPherson was dismissed from the team Monday amid reports that police planned to question him in the theft and forgery of a blank check.

Coach Bobby Bowden would not give details of the violation, but said McPherson would remain in school and on scholarship through the end of the semester.

"That's about all I can say," Bowden said. "This is kind of new to me, too."

Bowden called his decision to dismiss McPherson "clear cut."

A source told *ESPN The Magazine's* Gene Wojciechowski that when confronted with the issue by FSU on Monday, McPherson did not tell the truth. FSU then felt it had no choice but to dismiss McPherson from the team.

At the end of Monday's news conference, sports information director Rob Wilson said the investigation did not involve gambling or point shaving.

No one has been charged in the check forgery, and police would have no further comment until criminal charges are filed, the Tallahassee Police Department said in a statement.

McPherson's attorney Grady Irvin said McPherson had not spoken to police but that he would cooperate fully with the police, any Florida State investigation or any investigation by the NCAA. Irvin said McPherson is not the subject of the investigation but that the police wanted to talk to him about the conduct of another individual.

Irvin told reporters that McPherson talked to the Florida State coaching staff last week about an issue regarding conduct and was allowed to play and start against North Carolina State.

Hurricanes increase their BCS lead

Ohio State may be headed for the BCS national title game in the Fiesta Bowl, but Miami still sits atop the Bowl Championship Series standings.

The defending national champion Hurricanes increased their lead over the Buckeyes to 1.32 points

Monday from the slimmest margin of 0.01 points last week when they moved ahead of Ohio State for the first time. Miami, ranked No. 1 in the AP media and coaches' polls, has 2.89 points, 0.80 points better than last week's total. Ohio State has 4.21 points, with Oklahoma moving up to third with 9.09 points.

The Buckeyes (13-0) completed their regular season with a 14-9 victory over Michigan on Saturday. As one of only two unbeaten teams remaining — Miami (10-0) is the other — Ohio State assured itself of at least a second-place finish when the final BCS standings are released Dec. 8.



Deployment entitlements

While deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom you will be entitled various additional entitlements.

♦ **Hostile Fire Pay** — You will be authorized **\$150** per month for every month that you are in designated hostile fire areas.

♦ **Combat Zone Tax Exclusion** — Designated areas in theater have been deemed non-taxable (federal taxes only) for any pay up to **\$5,532.90** a month.

♦ **Hazardous Duty Pay - Location** — Starts the day of arrival and ends the day of departure. You will be authorized up to **\$100** a month.

♦ **Basic Allowance for Subsistence:** All soldiers will receive the standard rate of BAS. This rate will be **\$241.60** for enlisted and **\$166.37** for officers.

♦ **Family Separation Allowance** — Starts effective the day you departed your home station. However, you must be separated from your dependent for 30 days for this to start. Thus, you will not see a payment until the pay day after you have been separated from your dependent(s) over 30 days. You will be authorized up to **\$100** a month.

♦ **Per Diem** — You are authorized **\$3.50** a day for everyday you spend in theater. Upon completion of your tour you will need to file a travel voucher (DD form 1351-2). On that voucher you need to start your tour from the day you left home station to the day you returned.

Texas A&M freshman dies; third fatality in Slocum era

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — A Texas A&M freshman football player died Monday morning after complaining to his roommate he was having trouble breathing.

Brandon Fails, 18, died at St. Joseph Regional Health Center, school officials said. An autopsy will be performed to determine the cause of death.

The 6-foot-1, 307-pound defensive lineman appeared in four games for the Aggies before undergoing knee surgery on Oct. 22.

“Brandon was a bright-eyed young man with an engaging personality,” Texas A&M coach R.C. Slocum said. “You couldn’t be around Brandon for very long without smiling. He was an outstanding football player but an even better person.”

“He was the kind of guy you wanted to hug when you got near him,” Slocum said. “He was a touchy kind of guy, just a lovable kid.”

Slocum said Fails’ roommate, tight end Patrick Fleming, told him Fails collapsed as they prepared to leave their room for breakfast in the dorm cafeteria.

Mine Field Marathon



The 26.2-mile Mine Field Marathon will be Friday. To register, visit the Bagram Air Base 339th Combat Support Hospital.

All runners participating are required to attend the safety brief Thursday, 0330Z, at the Bagram Air Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation Building. T-shirts will be handed out then.

“Sarge, I’m outta’ batteries!”



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support